



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/585,370	04/09/2007	Keiji Matsumoto	H0625.0006/P006	2491
24998	7590	05/15/2008		
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP 1825 EYE STREET NW Washington, DC 20006-5403			EXAMINER KOYAMA, KUMIKO C	
			ART UNIT 2887	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/15/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/585,370	Applicant(s) MATSUMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner KUMIKO C. KOYAMA	Art Unit 2887	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 July 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>0706_0906</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Preliminary Amendment received on July 06, 2006 has been acknowledged.

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it includes reference numbers. The Examiner respectfully request the Applicant to avoid the use of reference numbers in the abstract.
2. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Andreasson et al (US Patent Application No. 2004/0046020 A1).

Andreasson discloses a medical dispensing unit 410 that has one more drawers or compartments 440 each with individual sections 442 that have the capability of storing medications (Paragraph [0061], lines 1-4). The dispensing terminal further includes a touch screen as an input device or an optional keyboard (Paragraph [0059], lines 3-6).

Art Unit: 2887

Andreasson discloses a RF reader 145 that is configured to read RFID tags inside the storage compartments of the dispensing unit (Paragraph [0060], lines 1-3). The scanner circuitry is capable to both "read" RFID tags and "write to" RFID tags (Paragraph [0064], lines 19-20), and therefore, Andreasson discloses a reader/writer. The dispensing terminal also includes a display (Paragraph [0059], lines 3-4). Within the dispensing unit, there are one or more RFID antennas on the PCB that enable reading RFID tagged product within the drawer compartment (Paragraph [0062], lines 7-10). Andreasson discloses that the reader comprises a plurality of RFID antennas amounted on the bottom of the compartment (see claim 3 on Page 11). Such disclosure teaches that the reader/writer is provided on a surface at a bottom of the storing section. Andreasson discloses that a single RF reader may be used to read the RFID tags of the entire contents of the dispensing unit (Paragraph [0060], lines 6-8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andreasson in view of Freeman (US Patent Application No. 2003/0151336 A1). The teachings of Andreasson have been discussed above.

Andreasson shows in Fig. 4A that the storing section 440 is provided on a side of a case main body 140. The side of the case main body is provided with an open/close

Art Unit: 2887

structure so that opening/closing of a case cover is enabled, the case cover being one side of the mobile commodity case. For example, the top compartment 440 shows an open state. And the bottom compartment 440 shows a closed state.

Andreasson fails to teach that the input means and the display are provided on an internal surface of the case cover. Andreasson also fails to teach a grip of disposing the mobile commodity case is externally provided.

Fig. 6 of Freeman shows that the display 110 is provided inside the drawer 84, and therefore, the display is provided on an internal surface of the case cover. Fig. 6 also shows a grip disposed on the drawer 84 and attached externally.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to integrate the teachings of Freeman to the teachings of Andreasson and provide a display as well as the input device on an internal surface of a case cover such that the devices are not openly accessible by other, especially unauthorized users. Such modification reduces the risk of such unauthorized access by avoiding such devices from being exposed. Also, addition a grip feature also eases the open and closing features of the drawer, which provides faster access to the medical items in case of an emergency situation.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KUMIKO C. KOYAMA whose telephone number is (571)272-2394. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm.

Art Unit: 2887

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Paik can be reached on 571-272-2404. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kumiko C. Koyama/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2887
May 12, 2008